PMT 3-8-03

Docket No.: 202048US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

RECEIVED

Vitaly LIVSHITS, et al.

: EXAMINER: KERR

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SERIAL NO: 09/761,782

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

FILED: JANUARY 18, 2001

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

FOR: MUTANT ILVH GENE AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-VALINE

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

az

Responsive to the Official Action mailed October 22, 2002, reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the following amendment and comments.

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Please cancel the original Abstract appearing on page 37 and insert therefor the substitute Abstract submitted herewith as new page 37.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 24, line 3 with the following text:

The mutation IlvH1 (¹⁷Ser to Phe), *ilvH2* (¹⁴Gly to Asp), *ilvH3* (²⁹Asn to <u>Tyr</u>), *ilvH4* (²⁹Asn to <u>Lys</u>) and *ilvH612* (²⁹Asn to Lys and ⁹²Gln to a termination codon, TAG), conferred enzyme AHASIII resistance to L-valine inhibition as follows. That is, *E. coli* strain MI262 deficient of AHAS activity, after the introduction of the plasmids having various *ilvIH* genes showed the enzyme activity with different level of resistant to L-valine (Table 1). It can also